DEBATES 2709

The Chair has received no further amendments of substance to Committee Recommendation GP-3. Are there any such amendments?

The Chair hears none. The question now arises on the approval on second reading and adoption of Committee Recommendation GP-3 as amended. Are you ready for the question?

The question arises on the adoption on second reading of Committee Recommendation GP-3 as amended. A vote Aye is a vote in favor of the adoption of the recommendation as amended. A vote No a vote against.

Cast your vote.

Has every delegate voted? Does any delegate desire to change his vote?

(There was no response.)

The Clerk will record the vote.

There being 87 votes in the affirmative and 16 in the negative, the Committee Recommendation GP-3 as amended is adopted on second reading.

The next item on the calendar is the consideration of the Committee on Style, Drafting and Arrangement Report S&E-7 with respect to Committee Recommendation LG-1.

The Chair recognizes Delegate Penniman.

DELEGATE PENNIMAN: I think that most of the explanations are clear in the covering memorandum. I say with some hesitation on page 1, line 16, it says "covering governmental units in section 7.06" and it should be "7.08." So the reference there is not correct. Otherwise I think that we are correct in the statements in the covering memorandum of the Committee on Style.

I think as a matter of general interest and partially because the whole new article or the article as we have modified it in Style looks as if a great deal has happened to it. I would like to just give a bit of comment on that.

In the case of 7.01 we did remove the definitions from one place to put them in the sections where the topic is actually being discussed.

In the case of section 7.02 we did not strike out great quantities of this except to strike it out so that they can appear in the schedule of transitory provisions. In 7.06 where another whole section is removed, it is the one describing or defining the law as it is used throughout the Constitution, and it is the one I spoke to a moment ago in connection with the section on conservation. That has been moved to Article 3 on the legislative branch.

I think in most other instances, where there are a number of words crossed out successively, it is mostly because we moved an item from the bottom to the top, or from the top to the bottom within a single section. The thing I really want to call your attention to is the fact that the Committee on Local Government had written what in most respects, in all respects, we might say, was an excellent article. We did not change it nearly to the extent that it would appear from the way in which the sections are crossed out.

All of this is mentioned in our covering memorandum. I simply wanted to stress it because the report and the original as it came from the floor was generally excellent, and it was not all beaten up, as one might think at first glance.

We did where possible use definitions rather than adding new vocabulary to the constitution, so that for example, the term "civil unit" was not used, rather, it was defined and the definition was used. It comes up only once in this article.

We made one change where we speak of the power of the counties, where we removed the taxing power from lines 3 and 4: "A county may exercise any power other than the judicial power, and taxing power, and perform any function" and so on, unless that power has been denied to it for any reasons. Since the taxing power is not denied to the counties, but is granted to them, it did not seem to us that it should be placed under that kind of blanket denial in the same sense in which the judicial power is denied to the counties because it is solely a state function. I do not know that there is any merit in taking up any of your time with further discussion.

I think that the memorandum covers it reasonably well.

THE PRESIDENT: I think it would be desirable if the Chairman of the Committee on Style, Drafting and Arrangement did review in detail the changes with respect to each section.

I say that for two reasons: One, this is the first extended report of the Committee on Style, Drafting and Arrangement with respect to a major article of the Consti-